

In the Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method for inducing growth inhibition of or apoptosis in a population of cancer cells in which mdm2 is not overexpressed, comprising administering to the cells an agent comprising a peptide, less than 25 amino acids in length, having at least 70% amino acid sequence identity with a portion of human p53, and including the peptide motif FXaaXaaXaaW (SEQ ID NO: 4), where Xaa is any amino acid, wherein the agent has ~~having~~ the property of disrupting the binding of p53 and mdm2 or inhibiting the production of mdm2.

2. (Previously amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the p53 is activated for DNA specific binding and transcription.

3. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the agent comprises a peptide having an amino acid sequence that consists of, ~~or that is a variant of,~~ a portion of human p53 which has the property of binding to mdm2.

4.- 27. (Canceled)